

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/605,799

Examiner

Christopher Onuaku

Applicant(s)

RASHKOVSKIY ET AL.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 2/13/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-9,11-17,19&20 (now renumbered 1-17, respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/13/06 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1,2,4-9,11-17,19&20 are allowable over the prior art of record.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the invention relates to electronic program guides programming guide that facilitates the selection and recording of season premieres and the capture of ensuing episodes.

The closest references Alexander et al (US 6,177,931) discloses television systems, including the display of, and recording control interface with television programs, video, advertising information and program scheduling information, and Naimpally (US 6,020,880) teaches receiving information from a single service provider, including obtaining Electronic Program Guide (EPG) data through the Vertical Blanking

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Interval (VBI) of NTSC signals which are carried on a specific terrestrial channel, e.g., PBS station or on a specific cable TV station.

However, Alexander et al and Naimpally fail to explicitly disclose a method, where the method further comprises wherein in response to the user selection of one or more season premiere episodes through the interface, determining a future schedule including at least new programs of the upcoming series, and automatically recording the season series in accordance with at least the future schedule.

Regarding claim 8, the invention relates to electronic program guides programming guide that facilitates the selection and recording of season premieres and the capture of ensuing episodes.

The closest references Alexander et al (US 6,177,931) discloses television systems, including the display of, and recording control interface with television programs, video, advertising information and program scheduling information, and Naimpally (US 6,020,880) teaches receiving information from a single service provider, including obtaining Electronic Program Guide (EPG) data through the Vertical Blanking Interval (VBI) of NTSC signals which are carried on a specific terrestrial channel, e.g., PBS station or on a specific cable TV station.

However, Alexander et al and Naimpally fail to explicitly disclose an article where the article comprises a medium storing instructions that enable a processor-based system to, in response to the user selection of one or more season premiere episodes through the interface, determine a future schedule including at least new programs of

the upcoming series, and automatically record the season series in accordance with at least the future schedule.

Regarding claim 15, the invention relates to electronic program guides programming guide that facilitates the selection and recording of season premieres and the capture of ensuing episodes.

The closest references Alexander et al (US 6,177,931) discloses television systems, including the display of, and recording control interface with television programs, video, advertising information and program scheduling information, and Naimpally (US 6,020,880) teaches receiving information from a single service provider, including obtaining Electronic Program Guide (EPG) data through the Vertical Blanking Interval (VBI) of NTSC signals which are carried on a specific terrestrial channel, e.g., PBS station or on a specific cable TV station.

However, Alexander et al and Naimpally fail to explicitly disclose a system, where the system further comprises wherein in response to the selection of the episode through the interface, determining a future schedule including at least new programs of the upcoming series, and automatically record the season series in accordance with at least the future schedule.

Conclusion

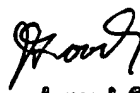
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO
3/1/06


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2622616